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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

25X1

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Ammunition Depots

DATE DISTR. 9 January 1951

NO. OF PAGES 8 25X1

NO. OF ENCLS. 3 (Encl. 1 Army
(LISTED BELOW) Only)

SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1
REPORT NO.

25X1 PLACE

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Altenhain Ammunition Depot.

1. In October 1950, it was learned that Soviet ammunition was being stored in the former German Army ammunition depot of Altenhain (N 52/E 41). German ammunition, allegedly artillery shells of various calibers, had been destroyed by blasting. The installations of the depot were in good condition. (1) The depot was guarded by Soviet artillerymen who, according to local residents, numbered 300 to 400. A major who was billeted in the depot was said to be the ranking officer. A colonel with his family was billeted in Trebsen (N 52/E 51). (2) Since 1 October only about 60 Germans, most of them women, have been employed in the depot. About 160 Germans were previously employed there.

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2.

- a. A list of arms contained in a box No. 11, reading as follows:

No.	Type	Serial No and Year of Manufacture	Category
1.	model 1938 carbine	ZIS - 2882 - 43	II
2.	model 1938 carbine	VS - 5381 - 42	II
3.	model 1938 carbine	PA - 9272 - 42	II
4.	model 1938 carbine	MU - 6568 - 41	II
5.	model 1938 carbine	ZIS - 5409 - 43	II
6.	model 1938 carbine	DB - 8207 - 43	II

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Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 403

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7.	model 1938 carbine	KS - 4099 - 44	II
8.	model 1938 carbine	- 19015-35	II
9.	model 1938 carbine	LA - 8266 - 44	II
10.	model 1938 carbine	KI - 4920 - 42	II
11.	model 1938 carbine	IO - 2727 - 45	II
12.	model 1938 carbine	PA - 3390 - 43	II
13.	model 1938 carbine	NK - 3151 - 43	II
14.	model 1938 carbine	Yek - 2722 - 42	II
15.	model 1938 carbine	ND - 839 - 43	II
16.	model 1938 carbine	ASH - 781 - 40	II
17.	model 1938 carbine	RKh - 7047 - 42	II
18.	model 1938 carbine	AS - 5704 - 43	II
19.	model 1938 carbine	SIA - 3142 - 44	II
20.	model 1938 carbine	KR - 9141 - 42	II

The list was signed by Gds Sergeant Major (Starshina) Voronkov (fnu), chief storekeeper of the artillery depot [redacted] and dated 26 October 1950.

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- b. A list of arms contained in a box No.15, reading as follows:

No.	Type	Serial No. and Year of Manufacture	Category
1.	model 1944 carbine	FG - 4581 - 44	II
2.	model 1944 carbine	FU - 351 - 44	II
3.	model 1944 carbine	OT - 1577 -	II
4.	model 1944 carbine	NCh - 4832	II
5.	model 1944 carbine	V.F. - 2185	II
6.	model 1944 carbine	SV - 932	II
7.	model 1944 carbine	TV - 2733	II
8.	model 1944 carbine	GR - 211	II
9.	model 1944 carbine	IV - 208	II
10.	model 1944 carbine	SG - 3592	II
11.	model 1944 carbine	NT - 2750	II
12.	model 1944 carbine	SN - 4478	II

The list was signed by Gds Starshina Voronkov (fnu), chief storekeeper of the artillery depot of [redacted] and dated 26 October 1950.

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- c. Stock card No.1558 for 7.62-mm model 1944 carbine No. Ch Ya - 702, manufactured by the Izhevsk plant in 1944, specifying that the carbine belonged to Sergeant V.R. Karachev [redacted] and that it was classified on 21 March 1949 as a category II arm by a commission, including an officer named Dubrovin (fnu), and a Gds Captain Zhdanov (fnu). (5)

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3. Dingelstaedt Ammunition Depot.

25X1X [redacted] the manufacture of ammunition in the underground ammunition depot at Dingelstaedt (M 52/D 27) was resumed in September. The monthly output allegedly amounted to about 500,000 tank, antitank, and rocket projectiles. (6)

Finow Ammunition Depot.

1.

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5. On 2 and 3 October it was observed that ammunition boxes were stored in several buildings of the Waldeslust ammunition depot near Pinow (N 53/V 08). Soviet fatigue details arrived to load ammunition. The daily guard relief detail of one officer and 20 EM came from the direction of Eberswalde. (8)

Fuerstenwalde Ammunition Depot.

6. On 22 October a 120-axle train with about 100 AT guns and 10 boxcarloads of ammunition arrived in Frankfurt/Oder, from the direction of Prest Litovsk. The train was redispached to Fuerstenwalde (N 53/V 33), where the artillery pieces were unloaded and shipped to the Falkenhagen ordnance depot. The ammunition continued by rail to an underground ammunition depot on the Fuerstenwalde-Beeskow line and was unloaded there. The ammunition depot is said to be a large and heavily guarded installation. Railroad engineers of trains passing by were ordered to avoid any discharge of sparks. (9)

Kirchhain Ammunition Depot.

7. In September it was learned that Soviet ammunition was being stored in the Igant mine, about 7 km south of Kirchhain (N 52/A 05). The ammunition, which arrived by truck from an undetermined shipping point, allegedly consisted of light artillery, infantry, and rocket ammunition of various calibers. (10)

Mockrehna Ammunition Depot.

8. On 21 October it was learned that the former Mockrehna (N 52/E 53) ammunition depot was being heavily guarded by Volkspolizei personnel who, according to local residents, numbered about 300 men. It was said that stocks of German ammunition were stored in the depot. Ammunition was no longer being manufactured there. The only Soviet soldier seen on 21 October was an artillery lieutenant who went to the depot. (11)

Rathenow Ammunition Depot.

9. Between 20 September and 1 October a new lighting system consisting of powerful arc lamps and four searchlights were installed throughout the area of the storage depot at the Rathenow-Word (N 53/Z 15) railroad station. The guard detail on duty in the depot area was commanded by Lieutenant Proshenkov (fnu), and was recently brought up to a strength of 40 men. Since 29 September all streets in the vicinity of the depot have been restricted to civilian traffic after dark. (12)
10. Local residents said that a new type of ammunition was being shipped to the depot for storage. They described the ammunition as "oil bombs" having a bomb-shaped design, 150 cm high and 30 cm in diameter, with four trapezoid fins at the upper end. The bombs were allegedly fired from a special launching frame. (13)

Schwarza Ammunition Depot.

11. On 19 October it was learned that the ammunition depot of the Saalfeld (M 51/J 53) military post was located in Schwarzaer Hoehle (Schwarza cavern) (M 51/J 53) on the railroad line to Arnstadt. The guard detail there, which consisted of 1 officer and 10 EM, was relieved daily from Saalfeld. No construction or shipments either incoming or outgoing were observed. Local residents stated, however, that Soviet trucks were repeatedly at the depot at night. (14)

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Schwerin-Sternbuchholz Ammunition Depot.

12. During the nights from 12 to 16 October truck convoys were observed hauling ammunition to the Sternbuchholz (M 54/T 46) depot. No details on the origin, type, quantity, or caliber of the ammunition and no truck numbers could be secured. (15)

Toepchin Ammunition Depot.

13. Between 21 and 23 September it was learned that **the Toepchin** (N 53/Z 91) ammunition depot, which is located northwest of Teupitz (N 53/V 00), contains about 20 subterranean and 10 surface storage bunkers, each with a capacity of 2 or 3 railroad carloads of ammunition. The surface bunkers were round, reinforced concrete structures, about 20 meters in diameter and about 3.5 meters high, topped by an arched concrete roof. They have double iron doors, large enough to allow a truck to pass through. The subterranean bunkers were constructed like the surface bunkers, but were surrounded by sodded mounds of earth, with approaches cut through for the doors. (16)
14. At the depot, about 50 officers and 300 EM, who wore red-bordered black epaulets, were engaged in the maintenance of ammunition. They were assisted by 98 Gorman civilians whose activities had been restricted to cleaning and other minor work about six weeks before. The military personnel were organized into two units, one commanded by Colonel Panin (fnu), including about 36 officers, and the other by Lieutenant Colonel Marenko (fnu), including 4 majors, 6 captains and 4 senior lieutenants, one of whom was named Babayov (fnu). There was only one political officer, a major, for both units. The two commanding officers left Toepchin some time ago, but were expected to return soon. Colonel Panin's unit furnished guard personnel for the main approach road from the north and Lieutenant Colonel Marenko's unit furnished personnel for the approach road from the southeast. All officers were billeted outside the depot area in houses along the Toepchin-Wuensdorf highway. With the exception of two officer wives, all officer dependents had returned to the U.S.S.R. two or three months ago.
15. A special guard detail of 20 to 25 men was stationed in the Sputenberge forester's house on the eastern shore of Toepchin Lake. The soldiers of the detail wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and yellow-bordered black epaulets. They were brought to and from this post by truck. The enlisted personnel stationed at the depot proper were accommodated in wooden barracks and were restricted to quarters.
16. No new ammunition was being manufactured or filled at the depot. The rust was being removed from stocks and incoming shipments of Soviet artillery ammunition. The ammunition was also being reconditioned. Besides artillery ammunition, the rust was being removed from 50-kg bombs which were then stored. The 122-mm rocket projectiles were cleaned and greased. Infantry ammunition stored at the depot was only oiled and sprayed with powdered soapstone. Some shipments of British ammunition, bearing the inscription "40-mm shell" on the boxes, were observed to arrive at the depot. The last shipment of this kind, about five boxcarloads, arrived about three weeks prior to 21-23 September. This ammunition was also reconditioned. The 28 to 30 surface and subterranean bunkers were allegedly filled at the time of observation, the shells stored there being without fuzes.
17. A Soviet laboratory was being established in a former inn and its annex buildings, about 250 meters east of the driveway to the ammunition depot, on the southern edge of the highway leading to Toepchin. It was

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said that work with highly explosive material was being conducted in the heavily guarded laboratory.

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18. Outgoing shipments of ammunition amounted to 1,254 tons in 85 boxcars in January 1950; 510 tons in 34 boxcars in February; 5 tons in one boxcar in March; 950 tons in 53 boxcars in April; 340 tons in 24 boxcars in May; 568 tons in 45 boxcars in July; and 215 tons in 25 boxcars in August 1950. No ammunition left Toepchin in June 1950.
19. Rail shipments which were dispatched from the Toepchin depot between 3 September and 20 October included:

Shipment	Destination and Date
Two boxcars with Soviet soldiers who had escorted four shipments to Toepchin	Frankfurt/Oder 3 September
Twenty-six boxcars with 630 tons of ammunition; allegedly the only outgoing ammunition shipment in September	Kapen 20 September
Fourteen boxcars with ammunition;	Dannowwalde (N 51/U 61) 4 October 2:32 p.m.
Fifteen boxcars with ammunition;	Dannowwalde 4 October 2 p.m.
Ten boxcars with ammunition	Roederan (N 52/E 81) 11 October 1:20 p.m.
Ten boxcars with ammunition;	Dannowwalde 11 October 1:20 p.m.
Seven boxcars with ammunition;	Altengrabow (M 53/Z 00) 11 October 1:32 p.m.
Fifteen boxcars;	Roederan 17 October 6:35 p.m.

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Fourteen boxcars;

Roederan
17 October
6:35 p.m.

Four boxcars;

Altongrabow
20 October
6:20 p.m.

Six boxcars;

Finow
20 October
6:23 p.m.

20. Incoming shipments of ammunition amounted to 480 tons in 30 boxcars in January 1950; 452 tons in 29 boxcars in February; 719 tons in 54 boxcars in March; 516 tons in 33 boxcars in April; 524 tons in 30 boxcars in May; 2,201 tons in 187 boxcars in June; 486 tons in 31 boxcars in July; and 1,304 tons in 67 boxcars in August 1950.
21. Rail shipments which arrived at the Toepechin depot between 3 September and 21 October included:

Shipment	Shipping Station and Date
Thirty-six boxcars;	Frankfurt/Oder 3 September
Six boxcars	Mockrehna 8 September
Fourteen boxcars which were redispached to Neubuckow	Fuerstenwalde 9 September
Three boxcars	Wulkow 20 September
Nine boxcars	Hohenleipisch 27 September
Eight boxcars;	Hohenleipisch 2 October
Two boxcars	Wulkow 3 October
Three boxcars	Wulkow 11 October
One boxcar	Wulkow 13 October
Two boxcars	Wulkow 21 October

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(18)

Wilnersdorf Ammunition Depot.

22. On 23 October the Wilnersdorf (N 53/V 32) ammunition depot dispatched 452 tons of highly explosive ammunition to Kapen.

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Zinna Ammunition Depot.

23. On 25 and 26 October the former German Army ammunition depot of Zinna (N 52/E 64) near Torgau was guarded by Volkspolizei personnel. About 30 Soviet soldiers, wearing red epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets and armed with submachine guns, were observed at field training in terrain between the ammunition depot and the Torgau-Mockrehna road. (19)

24.



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25. Local residents said that German civilians were employed at the Zinna ammunition depot. Artillery ammunition was allegedly stored in the large earth bunkers, which can be recognized from outside the depot area. The railroad spur of the installation was apparently not used since it was completely covered with rust.

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[] Comments.

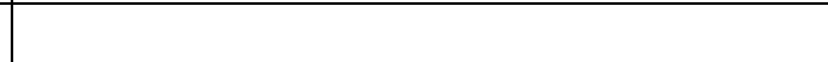
- (1) The information confirms the Eighth Gds Army ammunition depot, which is sometimes referred to as Amelshain depot. It is a former German Army installation located in the wooded area east of Altenhain on the road leading to Trebsen. To date, incoming shipments of ammunition have been observed to come from the U.S.S.R., Walkow and Justerrog. [] 25X1A
- (2) According to a previous report, the Soviet personnel numbered 40 officers and 500 AM. [] 25X1A
- (3) Guard and security measures have been substantially intensified. The official bulletin of Kreis Grimma, issue of 24 October 1950, published a warning that entering a 200-meter zone from the depot fence was at the risk of life.

(4)

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- (6) According to reliable information, the former German ammunition depot in the potash mine of Dingelstedt was abandoned by the Soviets in October 1948 to allow for the resumption of potash mining. The resumption of production by the Soviets is reported for the first time and requires confirmation [] Since the depot had been used only for the storage of German ammunition prior to 1948, it is doubted that ammunition should now be manufactured there. It is possible, however, that ammunition may again be stored there.
- (7) Possibly an ammunition supply depot on the grounds of the former autobahn rest camp, about 1,200 meters west of Finowfurt. The depot was observed as early as February 1950, but was not identified as an ammunition depot. It probably belongs to the Fourth Gds Army. For sketch, see Annex 2.
- (8) The information confirms the large ammunition depot in the former Messingwerk (brass plant) of Finow. [] 25X1A
- (9) Apparently the ammunition depot which is located east of Fuerstenwalde and south of the Frankfurt/Oder-Berlin railroad line. For sketch, []

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Other shipments of artillery pieces to Falkenhagen were mentioned in previous reports. [] 25X1A

- (10) A hitherto unknown ammunition depot, which is possibly small and only of local importance.

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- (11) Primarily stocks of German ammunition are known to be stored in the depot. Reports on rail movements stated that 28 and 29 boxcarloads of ammunition arrived at the depot from Justerbog on 4 and 6 November respectively. [REDACTED] 25X1A
It is not known whether the ammunition was of Soviet or German origin.
- (12) Probably the former German ordnance depot at the Rathenow-North railroad station, to which the stocks of the former ammunition depot in the Arado Plant south of Rathenow were moved.
- (13) According to the description and the caliber, it is believed that these are missiles filled with flame thrower fuel and used by the model M-30 rocket launcher.
- (14) The depot is only of local importance. [REDACTED] 25X1A
- (15) The depot was turned over to the Volkspolizei in the fall of 1949. 25X1A
[REDACTED] However, in late February 1950, the Soviets had a section of the depot specially fenced off and moved rocket launcher ammunition to it from the Schelfwerder depot. [REDACTED] 25X1
- 25X1A [REDACTED] It is not known whether the incoming ammunition shipment was consigned to the Soviets or the Volkspolizei.
- (16) Known as a large depot which belongs to the Third Gds Mecz Army or, 25X1A
possibly, to the GDFG. [REDACTED] For sketch, see Annex 3.
- (17) [REDACTED] 25X1
- (18) Additional incoming and outgoing shipments of ammunition were listed in reports on rail movements in late October and early November. 25X1A
[REDACTED]
- 25X1C [REDACTED]
- (19) The information confirms the large ammunition depot in the former German ammunition depot of Torgau-Zinna. [REDACTED] 25X1A
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- (20) [REDACTED]
- 25X1A [REDACTED]

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